

What's new at Shanna Schmidt Numismatics Inc.

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Newsletter #34:

What's New at Shanna Schmidt Numismatics Inc.

What a busy but fun last week. I know I must sound like a complete coin nerd but it was thrilling to go to the CNG offices in Lancaster. If you can believe it, It was my first trip there and I was very impressed. CNG has a nice operation, great staff and an amazing library! I took a little time to browse the books and even study a few coins that I didn't yet have the reference books for. Everything was categorized by Greek, Roman, Byzantine, etc. Journals were together as well. If you ever get the opportunity to go and visit you should. Time well spent.

The coming week will be another busy one. I'll be traveling to Coinex (Sept. 22-23), attending the Roma auction and then heading to day one of the Künker sale (Sept. 25) which is their ancient coin auction. It will be busy but hopefully lucrative.

Here is a short run-down of what is closing this week for e-sales, as well as a brief final overview of the auctions I am attending:

Naville Numismatic E Auction 34 (closes Sept 17)

NN has 632 ancient coins with an emphasis on E.E. Clain Steffanelli collection pieces. It isn't too late to reach out to me to bid in this auction. I'll be ready to start bidding around 9 a.m. my time and can represent you if you need help. Please do contact me soon however to ensure that I get your bids.

Agora Auction 59 (closes Sept 19)

Agora has 449 lots in their 59th auction. Agora has everything from ancient coins to antiquities. There are a lot of great deals to be had. Since I will be traveling only that evening to London I will be available to bid for you if you need.

Hirsch Auction 332 (Live auction on Sept 20)

Hirsch has five auctions over the course of a few days but the ancients portion takes place on Sept 20. Yours truly will be flying into London at the time of this auction so I have entrusted my bids to a friend. If you are interested in anything in this auction please reach out to me. I know I will not be there in person so if that is important to you then you should find alternative means to bid. I'm happy to help however if you are okay with someone representing your representative! Hirsch has 826 lots in this Sept 20th auction.

Coinex (Sept 22-23)

Coinex is a smaller trade show but there hasn't been a time when I haven't had fun going there. The room is jam packed with interesting dealers and attractive offers. The GBP is strong but not as strong as in previous years so hopefully I can find a few nice pieces for my stock. If you ever get the opportunity to attend this show you should consider going.

Coinex is put on by the British Numismatic Trade Association (BNTA). Here is a link to their site: <http://www.bnta.net/>

Roma Auction 14 (Sept 21)

The Roma catalog is filled to the brim with interesting pieces. A few of you have gotten catalogs from me. I will be attending the auction in person so if you would like representation now is the time to get in touch. I can give you more details if you contact me. There are 895 ancient coins that are to be auctioned that day.

Künker Auction 295 (Sept 25)

I'll be missing the second day of Coinex so I can get to Osnabrück to view the 1,334 lots of ancient coins. This is my first visit to Osnabrück so I'm excited to see their lovely offices. I've bid in so many auctions from Künker that it seemed more than appropriate to finally visit them! Osnabrück is a few hours from Frankfurt so I'll be leisurely taking the train preparing for a busy auction day.

Coin of the Week <http://www.shannaschmidt.com/coin-of-the-week/>

ROMAN EMPIRE. Anonymous. Spintriae. Struck under Tiberius. 14-37 AD. Rome Mint. AE Tessera, 3.01g (19mm, 4h). Erotic scene / Large VIII within beaded circular border.

Pedigree: Ex CNG 333, 20 August 2014, lot 282

Price: \$2,000

Spintriae have fascinated coin collectors for their overt sexual representations and their specific use for brothels in ancient times. According to Simonetta, there are three groups and 15 various sexual scenes. The numeral on the reverse indicates the value in asses. The earliest of spintriae actually had an 'A' preceding the roman numerals. Later issues dropped the 'A' and just used the roman numerals.

Since the emperor Tiberius did not want his image on coins being used in such distasteful ways, spintriae were mandatory for payment in brothels. Payment in money depicting the emperor's image was a punishable offense. It was not until after the death of Domitian (after 96 AD) that spintriae were no longer coined.

References: *Buttrey, Spintriae 7/VIII. Simonetta p. 13 (scena 13, Punzone D)*

Grade: *Rare type. This coin was professionally cleaned by the current owner to remove the heavy deposits that had formed. This has left the coin with uniform surfaces, albeit worn. It was not abrasively cleaned and has no cuts in the metal. Fine*

If you are interested in this coin please email shanna@shannaschmidt.com

If you are interested in any other coins I have available please visit my website www.shannaschmidt.com

Until next week!
Shanna



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